

SALOONS AND TAVERNS

Saloons and taverns for the convenience of miners in the Midway area were operated during the mining era, but quickly faded from the picture with the beginning of prohibition. The establishments were mostly of the "movie variety"—hard liquor sold over a bar and disputes settled with six guns. Pool tables and cards were featured, although dance hall girls were prohibited. In recent years there have been a few billiard and pool halls operated.

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HOW BEAUTIFUL UPON THE MOUNTAINS



In high style for her day is Mrs. Simon Epperson shown here with the popular horse "Skipper" known throughout Wasatch County. She is seated in a buggy from her husband's livery stable. The photograph was taken in 1911.

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POWER PLANTS

Two major power plants have been operated in the Midway area in addition to the Heber Light and Power Company in which Midway owns one-eighth interest. The first plant was developed in Snake Creek Canyon near the turn of the Century by President Joseph R. Murdock.

Realizing the potential of electric power, Pres. Murdock, along with several others took an option on property owned by Bishop Jacob Probst at the mouth of Snake Creek Canyon. During 1907 and 1908 they surveyed several possible plant sites, and finally chose one that they felt would best utilize water flow out of the canyon. Work was begun under the direction of Bishop Probst, with John H. (Jack) Buehler, John A. Sulser, Samuel (Sam) Ritchie and Gottlieb Buehler employed for the project.

Even though this venture failed, the idea persisted, and Jesse Knight

Their bodies sleeping in their graves
 'Til the resurrection morn
 Aunt Nannie, too, was called away
 When nearly eighty-seven
 And everyone of us feels sure
 That she is now in Heaven
 Because she kept the laws of God
 As nearly as she could
 And trusted everyone she met
 As all true Christians should.
 Those of her friends who yet remain
 Still hold the memory dear
 And gladly meet to celebrate
 Her Birthday every year.

At the peak of mining there were several Chinese cooks who hired in the area. "One Fan" was a beloved character who cooked at camps in the hills west of Midway. On one occasion young Nate Coleman came running to his father with an especially large piece of pie and exclaimed "Oh, Daddy, see what 'Parasol One' gave me."

Barber shops were operated at various times in Midway by Harry Bircumshaw, William Wheable, Thomas Hair, Mulholland Hair, Walter Van Wagoner and Bert Bonner.

John Mohlman and Mr. Kuhni repaired and made shoes.

Pool halls were operated by Erwin Alder, Walter Van Wagoner, Dow Epperman, Jack Derry and Keith Bronson.

When the railroads came to the area and transportation facilities improved many of the boarding houses closed.

The O'Neil hotel still stands on Midway's Main Street, used today as a private residence.

LIVERY STABLE

Only one livery stable flourished in Midway in the days before automobiles. The stable was established about 1909 by Simon Epperson. In earlier years, Mr. Epperson's father, Sidney H. Epperson, had kept a feed stable where travelers could stop for feed for their teams.

The Epperson stable was located north of the old Berkumshaw Building on a spot where William Gibson later operated a blacksmith shop. Mr. Epperson invested much in his livery stable and boasted fine quality horses and the best in harnesses, buggies and cutters.

Many of Midway's young couples courted in Epperson buggies and enjoyed Sunday rides in outfits from the stables. Workers at the mines also made good use of the services. When mining activity dwindled so did the livery stable business, and its end came when automobiles gained in popularity.



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hazel
Keith
Dor
Epperson

Paternal Order of Eagles

